

Lesson #1-15

JOSEPH TRUSTS GOD

Matthew 1:18-25

**Key Verse:**

“She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:21

The Point:

God’s plans may surprise us.

Unit Theme (November 27—December 18)

Faith in God’s Promises

WHAT’S IN A NAME

The meanings of names are important.

You will need:

- † Bible
- † Baby name books or website
- † Optional: Internet-connected device

Preparation:

1. You may look up the meanings of the names of your participants in the baby name book or website or do so in class.

Instructions:

1. **Parents often spent a lot of time deciding what they would name their children. They might choose names that they liked based on how they sounded, who they reminded them**

of, or what the names mean. Names can have a lot of important meanings.

2. Either help participants find their names in the baby name book or on a website or share what you looked up before class.
3. **Jesus’ name had meanings, too. If we look in Matthew 1:21 and 23, the angel tells Joseph that the baby should be named Jesus and would be called Emmanuel. Emmanuel means “God is with us.” God had promised to send a Messiah. Who was the Messiah that God sent as a baby? [Jesus.] “Jesus” means “savior,” and “messiah” means “anointed one” because Jesus was anointed—chosen by God—to save God’s people from their sins.**